

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H01L21/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 05, 14 September 2000 (2000-09-14) & JP 2000 049206 A (DAINIPPON SCREEN MFG CO LTD), 18 February 2000 (2000-02-18) abstract	1,3-5,9
Y		2,6,7
X	US 4 981 408 A (HUGUES ET AL.) 1 January 1991 (1991-01-01) abstract; figures 1-6 --- -/--	1

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

* & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 April 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

03/05/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2002, no. 02, 2 April 2002 (2002-04-02) & JP 2001 274232 A (TOKYO ELECTRON LTD), 5 October 2001 (2001-10-05) abstract	2,7
A	----	1
Y	US 2002/078892 A1 (TAKAHASHI) 27 June 2002 (2002-06-27) abstract; figures 5,6	6
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/11178

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
JP 2000049206	A	18-02-2000		NONE		
US 4981408	A	01-01-1991	EP	0458936 A1		04-12-1991
			JP	4504635 T		13-08-1992
			WO	9108968 A1		27-06-1991
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